

## Message Text

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22

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-04 /022 W  
----- 017071

R 161505Z SEP 76  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9396  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5015

FOR A/SY/PRS HICKAY FROM RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: NATO SECURITY PROCEDURES

1. MR. L.A. HOEBEKE, HEAD, NATO HEADQUARTERS SECURITY SERVICE  
ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 10 FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM TO ALL DELEGATIONS  
AND MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES:

BEGIN TEXT:

IDENTIFICATION OF NATIONAL SECURITY GUARDS INSIDE NATO HEAD-  
QUARTERS

THIS YEAR, THE MEDIA HAVE GIVEN EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY TO  
SOME EXTREMELY SERIOUS INCIDENTS IN SEVERAL MEMBER COUNTRIES  
RESULTING FROM ERRORS BY ARMED POLICEMEN.

PLAINCLOTHES SECURITY MEN FROM ARIOUS BODIES, AND RECENTLY  
AN ARMED EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC SERVICE, HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES  
IN MUTUAL SHOOT-OUTS.

AT EACH HEADS-OF-STATE OR MINISTERIAL MEETING, A VERY LARGE  
NUMBER OF ARMED PLAINCLOTHES NATIONAL SECURITY MEN, TOGETHER  
WITH BELGIAN POLICEMEN, ESCORT VIPS THROUGH THE HEADQUARTERS  
BUILDINGS AND THEN WAIT FOR THEM IN THE CONFERENCE AREA LOBBY.

I AM CONVINCED THAT IF ONE OF THEM WERE TO MAKE USE OF HIS  
WEAPON THERE MIGHT WELL BE A TRAGIC MISTAKE, SINCE IN VIRTUALLY  
ALL CASES IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY A SECURITY MAN.

TO AVOID SUCH A POSSIBILITY, I SUGGEST THAT SECURITY MEN  
ON ASSIGNMENTS IN THE HEADQUARTERS SHOULD IN FUTURE BE RE-  
QUIRED TO WEAR SOME SORT OF SMALL LAPEL BADGE RECOGNISABLE  
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BY ALL CONCERNED.

THE SECURITY SERVICE COULD ISSUE THE BADGES, WHICH WOULD  
BE CHANGED FOR EACH MEETING, ONCE IT HAD RECEIVED THE NECESSARY  
INFORMATION FROO NATIONAL DELEGATIONS AND MILREPS.

BEFORE CONDUCTING A MARKET SURVEY I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW  
WHAT YOU THINK OF THIS PROPOSAL BY 30TH SEPTEMBER AT THE LATEST.

IF ANY DELEGATIONS HAVE OBJECTIONS, THE QUESTION WILL BE  
PUT ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF SECURITY OFFICERS.

(SIGNED) L. HOEBEKE  
END TEXT.

2. REQUEST DEPARTMENT COORDINATE WITH APPROPRIATE AGENCIES TO  
DETERMINE IF FUTURE SECURITY DETAILS WOULD OBJECT TO AGENTS  
BEARING ARMS WEARING STANDARDIZED UNOBTRUSIVE, IDENTIFICATION  
LAPEL PINS WHILE INSIDE NATO FACILITIES.

3. WE RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE RESPONSE PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 30.  
STREATOR

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